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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

Intelligence Community Staff

IC 77-2441  
2 March 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Dr. Sayre Stevens  
Deputy Director for Intelligence  
Central Intelligence Agency

On file OMB release  
instructions apply.

[REDACTED]  
Vice Director for Production  
Defense Intelligence Agency

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Mr. Ray Chapman  
Director, Division of International Security  
Affairs  
Energy Research and Development  
Administration

[REDACTED]  
Acting National Intelligence Officer  
for Nuclear Proliferation

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Mr. Lawrence E. Finch  
Director, Strategic Affairs  
Bureau of Intelligence and Research  
Department of State

[REDACTED]  
Chairman, Joint Atomic Energy  
Intelligence Committee  
National Foreign Intelligence Board

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FROM:

[REDACTED]  
Chief, Production Assessment and  
Improvement Division

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SUBJECT:

Nuclear Proliferation Data Base

1. The strategy report for [REDACTED] assigns  
to the IC Staff, in collaboration with the NIO/NP, the task of developing

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specifications for an all-source data base for nuclear proliferation intelligence. I would like to establish a working group for this purpose, chaired by me and composed of representatives from your offices. Attached is a paper on the subject of data base specifications which I propose to use as a point of departure for development of the working group's programs.

2. During hearings on the FY77-79 budget, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) expressed reservations about proposed funding for nuclear proliferation data base improvements, and highlighted the need for a coordinated Community plan for such improvements. The IC Staff is preparing a report for OMB on nuclear proliferation activities which is due by the end of March 1977. I would like to use the working group to address data base issues as an input to this report, at least to the extent of:

- Defining the data base issues
- Developing a coordinated Community plan for resolving these issues
- Ensuring that there is no unnecessary duplication among Community elements in data base activities

For this purpose we will look to the working group for an input by mid-March.

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3. I would appreciate your assistance in this endeavor. Please submit the names of your representatives by March 4 to

Attachment:  
Nuclear Proliferation Intelligence  
Data Base, 9 February 1977

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9 February 1977

## Nuclear Proliferation Intelligence

### Data Base

As part of an ongoing review by the Intelligence Community of its posture to provide nuclear proliferation intelligence, a number of recommendations have been made for expanding the supporting data base. These recommendations encompass, for example, the following types of data on a country-by-country basis:

- Worldwide stocks and flows of plutonium and highly enriched uranium.

- Technology and development efforts for various capabilities necessary for a nuclear weapons program (e.g., high explosive technology).

- Existing and planned nuclear energy facilities and projects.

- Inventory of manpower trained in disciplines and skills related to nuclear weapons development or production.

### The Problem

The Intelligence Community needs to define specifications for a nuclear proliferation data base, including the identification of data to be incorporated, the degree of precision to be sought in this data, and priorities to be accorded in expanding various elements of the current data base. To aid in defining these specifications, an analysis is needed of the feasibility, costs, and benefits of collecting and maintaining various elements of data. This analysis should be conducted on the basis of known and anticipated needs of users for nuclear proliferation intelligence, including the White House, State, DOD, ERDA, NRC, and ACDA.

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Specific Tasks

To accomplish this analysis, the following tasks must be undertaken. In some of these tasks, contractor assistance may be called for.

- Task 1: Describe the existing nuclear proliferation data base (e.g., data elements, degree of precision, by whom the data is maintained, who has access to the data).
- Task 2: Identify current and projected needs of users for nuclear proliferation intelligence with sufficient scope and detail to make inferences about data base requirements.
- Task 3: Make a preliminary inventory of potential content of a nuclear proliferation data base, to be refined in subsequent tasks. Data elements should be screened at this stage on the basis of collection feasibility and a first order assessment of utility.
- Task 4: Assess the costs and benefits of including each of the above data elements in a nuclear proliferation intelligence data base. For those data elements in which precision of the data is an issue (e.g., location of the world's holdings of plutonium and highly enriched uranium), perform cost-benefit studies of various degrees of precision.
- Task 5: Based on Task 4, make recommendations on the scope, content, and degree of precision for a nuclear proliferation data base.
- Task 6: Based on an assessment of the priorities of user needs for nuclear proliferation intelligence, recommend priorities for expansion of the current data base.
- Task 7: Make recommendations about who should be responsible for maintaining the expanded proliferation intelligence data base, the most efficient means for intelligence personnel to access the data base, and which user agencies (if any) should have direct access to the data base.

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